

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE HOLOCAUST

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be able to take this opportunity to commemorate the more than 8 million people—6 million of whom were Jewish—who a little more than a half century ago were brutally, deliberately, and systematically exterminated in a state-sponsored effort to annihilate their religious, cultural, and ethnic existence. All across the United States, Americans are commemorating Yom Ha'Shoah—Remembrance Day for those who a couple of generations ago were exterminated in the death camps of Nazi Germany.

Today, I join millions of my fellow Americans and people all over the world in remembering the victims of the Holocaust. I also unite with those from around the country, including my constituents of the Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford, IL, to recognize those who risked their lives and those who died trying to intervene and save those who were targets of systematic extermination.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford is commemorating Yom Ha'Shoah by paying tribute to the "Righteous Gentiles," those non-Jews who risked death to help save the lives of Jews and others from Hitler's killing machine. These courageous people acted out of a conviction that they simply could not stand by and witness so great an injustice, so horrific a crime perpetrated against fellow human beings. In my district, I am privileged to have one of the surviving Righteous Gentiles, Irene Opdyke, addressing the Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford. Her presence alone is a testament to human compassion in the face of grave personal danger. Yet, her words of wisdom as she relates her personal experiences at saving lives will remind us of what courageous and conscientious people can do and should do when injustice is acted out on a grand scale.

We all admire the actions of the Righteous Gentiles. For it was through their courageous efforts to save those condemned to the gas chambers and firing squads that a remnant survived to preserve for us the memory of those who perished, as well as a personal account of the atrocities of that time. In essence, we are all survivors of the Holocaust. Although most of us never experienced its horrors first hand, we carry with us the knowledge and memory of those who did. We subscribe to the common value that human life is precious and abhor the evil committed by the perpetrators of the Holocaust. Therefore, as survivors we must rededicate ourselves to the proposition that we can never again allow the Holocaust to recur. We must never forget our sense of duty—bravely exemplified by the Righteous Gentiles and others—nor neglect our sense of compassion for the welfare of our fellow man.

In the words of Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor and honorary first chairman of the Holocaust Council, [We cannot] allow anyone or anything to deprive [us] of the great, great miracle which renders a human being sensitive to others."

Mr. Speaker, 1997 marks the 3,300th year of the establishment of the city of Jerusalem. This year is also the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem after the Six-Day War. While there will be ceremonies recognizing these events, we must not forget to pause again this year in solemn remembrance of Yom Ha'Shoah. I urge all of us to take time out to remember those who died in the Holocaust and I commend those such as the Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford and Irene Opdyke who remind us of our obligation to never forget.

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT DIX RETIRES FROM AIR FORCE AFTER 24 YEARS; A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN ACTIVE DUTY, RECRUITING AND RE- SERVES

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chief M. Sgt. Ronald W. Dix upon his retirement and to ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief Dix for his 24 years of service and for his symbolic representation of all that is good about our Armed Forces, and particularly those of the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard.

Chief Dix was on active duty with the Air Force from September 5, 1961 to September 4, 1965, serving as protocol NCO at Wheelus AFB, Tripoli, Libya and at Lindsay Air Station, Weisbaden, Germany. During this time, Chief Dix was also a member of the 37th Air Defense Missile Squadron at Kinchloe AFB, Sault St. Marie, MI.

In January 1978, he joined the Air National Guard, accepting an assignment in the Base Preparedness Office. In 1981, he was reassigned to active duty as a recruiter. Chief Dix was instrumental in attracting and inspiring young men and women to join the Air Guard in service to their country. In 1984, he was assigned as training NCO in the Civil Engineer Squadron of the 174th Fighter Wing and participated in many overseas deployment.

During his final time with the New York Air National Guard, Chief Dix served as the facilities manager for the entire Hancock Field Air National Guard Base. Some of his decorations for meritorious service include: The Air Force Good Conduct Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal with four devices, the Air Reserve Meritorious Service Medal with five devices, the National Defense Service, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Air Force Overseas Long and Short Tour Ribbon, the Air Force Longevity Service Award, the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, the New York State Commendation Medal and the New York Conspicuous Service Cross.

Upon completion of such exemplary service to our Nation, I commend Chief Dix and wish him well in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEDICATION OF THE BAUMGARTNER HOUSE HISTORICAL DESIGNATION PLAQUE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the history of the United States is one of a colorful patchwork, stitched by people of diverse backgrounds and cultures. Today, the Fraser Historical Commission with the people of the town of Fraser, will celebrate their history by decorating the Baumgartner House with a Michigan historical marker.

In 1856, John Christian Baumgartner, a native of Bavaria, became one of the first landowners in Fraser when he purchased 80 acres of land. With his wife and children, Mr. Baumgartner erected a magnificent farm house with outbuildings.

The architecture of the home is German rundbogenstil, meaning round-arched windows. Windows are the focal point of the home and are surrounded by corbelling. The house is a perfect symmetrical square, made entirely of brick. This type of architecture is rare in Michigan but was popular in the United States from the 1840's to the 1860's.

This unique home, complete with a grain farm, orchard, and outbuildings was inhabited by the Baumgartner family until 1907. Four families dwelled in the home until in 1981 when the city of Fraser purchased the home and converted it into a museum.

It is important that monuments to our past are preserved for future generations to witness. I would like to congratulate the people of Fraser for their commitment to preserving our past for our future.

AWARDING CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO FRANK SINATRA

SPEECH OF

HON. VINCE SNOWBARGER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise perhaps in lone opposition to H.R. 279, authorizing up to \$30,000 for a congressional gold medal for Frank Sinatra. While I have no doubt that the resolution will be approved by a majority of the House, I cannot in good conscience join in support of this extravagance at

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

a time when we are asking all Americans to join in the effort to balance the Federal budget.

Although I have long admired Mr. Sinatra's talent and enjoyed his work, I do not believe this is an appropriate use of \$30,000 of tax money—an amount higher than the per capita personal income in my district.

THE CITY OF DUBOIS, 125 YEARS
OF HISTORY AND VITALITY

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 125th anniversary of the founding of one of the great cities in my congressional district, the city of DuBois in Clearfield County, PA.

DuBois is a prosperous community, rich in history and spirit. Located on a scenic plateau at the top of the Allegheny Mountains where the Eastern Continental Divide marks the flow of its waters, the DuBois region first attracted Native Americans who used its rich forestry and streams for hunting and fishing. The land became open to settlement after the Indian purchase of 1783. John Rumbarger purchased 250 acres in 1865, and he later laid out the town site in 1872. About the same time, John DuBois constructed his lumber mills, and by 1876 the name of the town was changed to DuBois. His lumber operation flourished because of the area's dense virgin timber, numerous streams, and easy access to the railroads. Shortly after the mills opened, coal veins were discovered in the west end of town. DuBois lumber and coal, along with Titusville oil, became the principal freight for the railroad for many years. In the words of resident historian Jason Gray, "It was the lumbering that started DuBois and it was mining and railroading that kept it moving."

DuBois has continued to prosper over the past 125 years, by virtue of its prime location and its people's strong work ethic. The town has remained an attractive location for business and industry, continuing in its historical role as a commercial center because of its proximity to Interstate 80 and PA Routes 119 and 219. The DuBois-Jefferson County Airport is also located nearby and serves as a gateway to Pittsburgh and other international airports. Though ideally located for such industries as trucking and interstate commerce, the area has also become a solid leader in such major industries as powdered metals, glass, and meter and spring manufacturing.

Nevertheless, there is more to a town than its commerce and economy. A community's character is also vital to those seeking an exceptional quality of life. True to form, DuBois does not disappoint in this category either. The beauty and serenity of the surrounding hills truly make it an ideal place to live. Each season distinctly enhances the town's natural beauty, whether it be the colorful fall foliage or the peaceful blanket of winter's snow. Recreation and other activities abound within the area. Ethnic festivals, parades, fireman's fairs, church suppers, and youths sports are embraced by the community as a whole and evoke a sense of hometown atmosphere to native residents and newcomers alike. Visitors

are not viewed as strangers as is so often the case today, but treated as family. I know this from personal experience for the residents have gone out of their way to make me feel at home during each of my visits.

Mr. Speaker, I am indeed privileged to serve such a idyllic and distinguished community. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing the citizens of DuBois a very happy 125th anniversary with positive outlook for another 125 years of continued growth and prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT R. SMITH

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Robert R. Smith, of Morgan Hill, CA, who will be honored May 31, 1997, by the Santa Clara Valley Water District and others on the occasion of his retirement. I ask that you and the other Members of this distinguished body join me to pay special tribute to his important achievements in the area of water management.

Bob has been helping to manage the Santa Clara Valley Water District's Water Utility Enterprise over the last 7 years, which includes design, construction and operations programs involving groundwater recharge, importation of water from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the State of California, water treatment and reclamation. His contributions to western water management span a career of over 33 years, 15 of which have been in management at the Santa Clara Valley Water District.

A native of Michigan, Bob is a graduate of Michigan Technological University. He began his career at the Los Angeles County Flood Control and Water Conservation District in a variety of civil engineering positions in the areas of hydraulics and project management. During the course of his distinguished career, Bob served as superintendent of the water operations and maintenance at the northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and manager/district engineer at the Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, before joining Santa Clara Valley Water District. Bob first served as flood control manager at Santa Clara then was appointed in 1990 as assistant general manager of the water utility.

Bob Smith's leadership has been central to the successes the district has achieved in addressing the flood control needs and water supply challenges of Santa Clara County. His expertise and thoughtful approach to both management and technical issues continue to manifest themselves in the breadth and quality of the district's programs and projects.

Bob Smith provided a major contribution to the successful implementation of the district's ongoing planning, design, and construction of its \$500 million flood control program featuring Federal assistance from both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Natural Resources Conservation Service. He worked closely in negotiations with numerous Government agencies, and in collaborative discussions with State and Federal agencies in developing district solutions. His work with the district's congressional delegation over the years set the tone and standard for an emerg-

ing new era of cooperation and Federal involvement in our county. His vision and personal efforts in the establishment of State and Federal water policy at the administrative and legislative levels have been tremendous, including his participation in the resolution of the diverse issues relative to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta.

Bob Smith epitomizes the best of a public agency executive. The high regard in which he is held throughout the California water resources establishment and in private industry marks Bob as one of our most effective and respected water leaders. He is known throughout the State for his technical expertise and insightful leadership. He has inspired and mentored many executives, and is a highly respected role model for many young managers.

Mr. Speaker, one of Bob Smith's best qualities is his love and tremendous support for his family. Bob and Lolly and their children Leeanne and her husband Fred, and Robbin and her husband Oke, have built a warm family life in Morgan Hill and now the grandchildren Merideth, Miranda, and Conner are nearby, which makes life that much sweeter. While Bob and Lolly will now have more time to spend with family at their second home in Montana, we hope we can call on Bob in the future to seek his counsel on water policy matters. He will be missed tremendously at the district and in the county and State water circles. Please join me in wishing Bob and his family well and in thanking him for his outstanding service to the district and to the community.

IN HONOR OF NINIAN SMART

HON. WALTER H. CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, as the world becomes smaller, and as globalization becomes more and more a fact of life, it behooves us to know as much as we can about a multiplicity of cultures and the religious traditions that inform them. Today, May 6, 1997, the University of California, Santa Barbara, is celebrating Ninian Smart Day to recognize the extraordinary achievements of one of its faculty members in stimulating, extending and deepening cultural and religious understanding.

During a lifetime of service to academic communities on virtually every continent on the globe, Professor Smart has worked proficiently and diligently to increase knowledge about the nature and function of religion in human experience. Professor Smart is the only person to have served as a department chair in exemplary universities in both the United States (the University of California) and in England (Lancaster University). In addition, he has probably trained more Ph.D.'s serving throughout the world than any other scholar. And the books he has written, together with his television documentaries, have been widely acknowledged and highly praised. Mr. Speaker, Ninian Smart's contribution to scholarship as well as his personal contribution to increased religious understanding is truly remarkable.

On this day, his 70th birthday, greetings will come his way not only from appreciative colleagues and students within the United States,